Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently amended) A method for providing access to resources <u>for the purpose of updating said resources</u>, comprising the steps of:

defining physical and/or logical parameters required for locating a desired resource;

reading resource-specific information from a resource-specifying source specifying a structure containing said resource;

generating hierarchical control information reflecting said structure using said resourcespecific information; and

enabling access to the desired resource to update said resource by calling a resource access performer with at least one of said parameters and evaluating said control information.

- 2. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:

 automatically triggering a semantic evaluation of the contents of a resource desired to be
 updated when said resource is referenced in calling said resource access performer.
- 3. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which said resource-specifying source is an XML file.
- 4. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which said hierarchical control information is defined in a data modeling schema comprising simple data types and at least one composition method for recursively constructing complex data types.
- 5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 4 in which said schema describes relations between data stored in one or more of said resources.

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- 6. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which said resources are shared between at least two different operating systems.
- (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:
 performing extended processing on said resources as defined in a Java class.
- 8. (Original) A computer system having means for performing the steps of the method of claim 1.
- 9. (Previously presented) A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform the method steps of claim 1.
- 10. (Previously presented) The program storage device of claim 9 in which said program of instructions comprises an application interface for triggering requests for resource data processing from an application and an architectured interface for resource access.
- 11. (Original) The program storage device program of claim 10 in which said interface comprises one or more calls to at least one resource access performer.
- 12. (Original) A computer program product stored on a computer-usable medium comprising computer-readable program means for causing a computer to perform the method of claim 1.